

CLAIMS

1. An effects module comprising:
a body;
an image processor within said body that applies one or more effects to a stored image;
at least one connection means incorporated in said body for connecting said effects module to a bus providing power and data between said effects module and said stored image.
2. The effects module of claim 1 having two or more connection means incorporated in said body, at least one connection means connecting said effects module to at least said stored image.
3. The effects module of claim 1 having two or more connection means incorporated in said body including a first connection means connectable to said stored image and a second connection means connectable to further modules in a stackable manner.
4. The effects module of claim 1 having two or more connection means incorporated in said body, said two or more connection means providing through connection to said stored image and one or more further modules of a compact printer system.
5. The effects module of claim 1 wherein the image processor includes means for retrieving the stored image from a first image store, means for applying said one or more effects to said stored image, and means for transferring a resultant image to a second image store.
6. The effects module of claim 1 further comprising a LCD within said body, said LCD being connected to said image processor and providing information about said effects.
7. The effects module of claim 6 wherein said LCD is capable of displaying a plurality of icons indicative of effect type, effect number and effect application status.
8. The effects module of claim 1 further comprising a CHOOSE button to cycle through a plurality of effect types.
9. The effects module of claim 1 further comprising a SELECT button to increment or decrement an effect number.

10. The effects module of claim 1 further comprising an APPLY button to apply a selected effect to said stored image.
11. The effects module of claim 1 wherein said effects are borders, clip-art, captions, warps, color changes, and painting styles.
- 5 12. The effects module of claim 1 wherein said at least one connection means comprises a male bayonet fitting providing physical connection between said effects module and a module storing said stored image.
13. The effects module of claim 1 wherein said at least one connection means comprises a female bayonet fitting providing physical connection between
- 10 said effects module and a module storing said stored image.
14. The effects module of claim 1 wherein said bus is a Serial Bus.
15. The effects module of claim 1 wherein said bus enables said effects module to be controlled externally allowing said one or more effects to be applied to external stored images.
- 15 16. An effects module for a compact printer system comprising:
a body;
an image processor within said body that applies one or more effects to an image stored in a further module of said compact printer system;
at least one connection means incorporated in said body for connecting said effects module to a bus providing power and data between said effects module and said further module.
- 20 17. The effects module of claim 16 wherein said further module is a printer module.
18. The effects module of claim 16 wherein said further module is a memory module.
- 25 19. A method of applying one or more effects to a stored image in a compact printer system comprising the steps of:
reading said stored image from a first storage location to an image processor;
applying a selected effect to said stored image;
writing a resultant image to a second storage location.
- 30 20. The method of claim 19 wherein said first storage location and said second storage location is a printer module of said compact printer system.

21. The method of claim 19 wherein said first storage location is a memory module of said compact printer system and said second storage location is a printer module of said compact printer system.

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